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Sports pg 11

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HALIFAX • WEDNESDAY, MAY 19, 2010

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Regis and Kelly visit to P.E.I. confirmed

ENTERTAINMENT Live! With Regis And Kelly will broadcast from P.E.I. in July, The Charlottetown Guardian has confirmed.

Regis and Kelly is one of the top rated syndicated U.S. morning shows. The show is hosted by Regis Philbin and Kelly Ripa.

It airs on CTV in Canada.

A news conference will be held this morning in P.E.I. to make the announcement official.

The province says the news conference will "release the details of a major broadcast initiative."

But officials at CTV and in the P.E.I. government both say that announcement is with regard to Regis and Kelly.

It's expected Live! With Regis And Kelly will broadcast from Crowbush Cove.

CHARLOTTETOWN GUARDIAN

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SCANLINE
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Travel pg 18



Drinking in Évian's beauty

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Fatal crash Charges laid



Matthew Lesley Grimm, 18, is escorted from Dartmouth provincial court yesterday. Grimm is charged with dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing death, two counts of breaching an undertaking and one count of breaching probation following a fatal crash Sunday night that killed 15-year-old David Alexander Julien. Story, page 4.

HRM proposes tax increases

BUDGET If Halifax regional council approves the budget it tabled last night, it's going to get a little more expensive to live in HRM.

Staff had to squeeze \$35.5 million out of the budget this year and it's proposing the following to make that happen:

- A 1.7 per cent general tax rate increase.
- Increases in the rural and urban transit tax rates.
- No more weekly green cart pickup during summer months.

- Closing some visitor information centres.
- Changes to recreational programs.
- No trap-neuter-release program or zebra crosswalk stripes.
- Suspended streetscaping projects.
- Higher user fees for items such as ice rentals.
- No new trails that don't have funding already.
- No new public art projects such as murals.

- Suspension of the Community Facility Partnership Grant program.

The five-year transit expansion plan remains in effect, which means 10 new buses this year, extending Access A Bus and opening the Ragged Lake Operations Centre and the Dartmouth Terminal.

The debt will also continue to go down \$5 million in the next year.

JENNIFER TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX
MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 5

Five under Mounties' microscope

MLA expense spending leads to criminal investigation

PAUL MCLEOD
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The RCMP has launched a criminal investigation of one current MLA and four former members who left the legislature last year.

Auditor general Jacques Lapointe revealed yesterday he had turned five files over to police last week when his forensic audit into MLA spending revealed the five members may have committed illegal acts. But he would not name names.

"We just felt it was self-evident ... that the acts we were looking at were not legal," Lapointe said yesterday.

The RCMP commercial crime section is now investigating. Details on what illegal acts, when they allegedly happened, and how much money is allegedly involved are all being kept secret as investigators do their work.

According to police, it could take years before charges are laid.

As for whether this casts a cloud over all current MLAs, Lapointe said he hopes not.

"If that's the case, I'm sorry for it. I don't think that's right. But there is

very little that I can do to offset that. My job is simply to conduct my audit and report my findings, whatever they may be," he said.

Lapointe said the RCMP urged him to keep the names secret, but he noted all MLAs have the right to presumption of innocence.

Initially, Lapointe was scrutinizing more than five MLAs, but he didn't end up turning some — he wouldn't say how many — over to police.

Those who are now under investigation may not even know it. In consultation with RCMP, Lapointe and his staff did not inform the targeted MLAs. But Lapointe said they would probably figure it out since his staff has been calling and asking questions.

"And, frankly, some of them, if we're right, they'll know anyway," he said.

Former Liberal MLA Dave Wilson resigned his seat and hired a lawyer when Lapointe first tried to question him in March. Yesterday, Lapointe confirmed Wilson never did consent to speak with him. Lapointe wouldn't say if he spoke to Wilson's lawyer.

MORE COVERAGE, PAGE 3

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10x12	\$767	\$777	\$817	\$867	\$877	\$1,027
10x14	\$807	\$817	\$857	\$907	\$917	\$1,067
10x16	\$847	\$857	\$897	\$947	\$957	\$1,107
12x8	\$897	\$907	\$947	\$997	\$1,007	\$1,157
12x10	\$937	\$947	\$987	\$1,037	\$1,047	\$1,197
12x12	\$977	\$987	\$1,027	\$1,077	\$1,087	\$1,237
12x14	\$1,017	\$1,027	\$1,067	\$1,117	\$1,127	\$1,277
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3

Local



Men putting best foot forward for fundraiser

Halifax Regional Police officers and members of the Halifax Mooseheads will be among the more than 50 men walking in high-heel shoes for the YMCA's third annual Walk a Mile in Her Shoes fundraiser today at Scotia Square Mall. The event is to raise awareness about homeless women in Halifax, and to collect funds to keep programs for these women running. The event begins at noon and runs until 1 p.m.

METRO HALIFAX



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Suspect in cross-burning case chooses trial by jury in Supreme Court

CRIME One of the two brothers charged with hate crimes following a cross burning in Hants County has chosen to be tried by a jury in the Nova Scotia Supreme Court.

Nathan Rehberg, 20, appeared briefly in a provincial courtroom in Windsor yesterday.

He will return June 9 to enter a plea.

The cross burning happened in February outside the Poplar Grove home of an interracial couple.

Michelle Lyon, who is white, and her fiancé, Shayne Howe, who is black, discovered a two-metre-high cross burning on their yard.

Justin Rehberg, 19, has already entered a plea of not guilty and will go to trial Oct. 18.

The brothers face charges of public incitement of hatred, criminal harassment, uttering threats and mischief.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Correction

Jamie Baillie will make his decision known shortly regarding a run for the Nova Scotia Progressive Conservative leadership. A headline for a story in Tuesday's Metro incorrectly stated it was for a mayoral run.

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Parties say their MLAs are in the clear

RCMP investigating 5, including sitting member, in expense scandal

PAUL MCLEOD
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All three political parties insist no one in their caucus is the sitting MLA police are investigating for alleged illegal acts.

Premier Darrell Dexter and both opposition leaders say they've spoken to their members and no one has reported being asked any extra questions by the auditor general's staff.

They're also all in agreement that if a member of their caucus was under investigation they would be immediately booted out.

The only MLA who is not a member of a political party is Dartmouth North's Trevor Zinck, who was booted from the NDP in March.

Zinck wouldn't speak to reporters yesterday. He said he was too busy meeting with constituents to talk to journalists who showed up at his office. Phone calls were not returned.

Zinck was being investi-



Auditor general Jacques Lapointe answers questions from reporters at One Government Place yesterday following the release of his forensic audit into MLA expenses.

gated by auditor general Jacques Lapointe after the NDP kicked him out of caucus and gave Lapointe some of Zinck's expense claims that they found

troubling. But Lapointe wouldn't say whether Zinck was one of five names handed to police.

The only other person Lapointe was conclusively

known to be investigating is Glace Bay MLA Dave Wilson.

Dexter said yesterday he was disappointed to hear his colleagues may have

been involved in criminal acts.

"It is just clearly disappointing that, in these kinds of circumstances, that there is the potential of five people I served with in the House of Assembly who are potentially under investigation," Dexter told reporters.

Liberal Leader Stephen McNeil took issue with Lapointe's choice not to officially notify the MLAs he was handing their files over to police.

"I'm extremely surprised that the auditor didn't even have the courtesy to call those members before those files were being referred. It's five phone calls," said McNeil.

"It would be human decency."

If an MLA is convicted of a crime with a maximum sentence of more than five years in prison, that person would be automatically turfed from the legislature. Short of that, it would take a legislative motion to force someone out.

Former X-Men star wants flashing case moved

PHILIP CROUCHER
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CRIME The man facing charges in relation to an alleged flashing spree in Halifax is looking to have his case moved to Cape Breton.

Neil James Wayne MacDonald didn't appear yes-



Neil MacDonald

terday in Halifax provincial court for his arraignment hearing in relation to several alleged flashing instances

from March 21 to 26, but the Crown said it has been told his defence is trying to have the case moved to Sydney. They added nothing has been finalized.

A new court date for MacDonald in Halifax has been set for June 14.

MacDonald, a 26-year-old Sydney Mines native, who now lives in Halifax, is charged with seven counts

of an indecent act in connection with seven incidents that took place mostly in south-end Halifax around Dalhousie University.

MacDonald is a former basketball star with the St. Francis Xavier X-Men. The six-foot-11 centre has also played professionally in Europe.

Saint Mary's support staff vote to approve 3-year contract

LABOUR Support staff at Saint Mary's University have ratified a tentative three-year contract.

The Nova Scotia Government and General Employees Union, which repre-

sents the university support staff that includes library assistants, clerks, secretaries and web developers, say 89 per cent voted in favour of the tentative agreement reached with

Saint Mary's on May 11.

The agreement, retroactive to July 1, 2009, sees wage increases of 2.9 per cent in the first year and two per cent in the second and third years. The NS-

GEU says "small improvements" were also made in vacation, standby and tuition benefits.

The two sides had been bargaining since December.

METRO HALIFAX

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Video Video Cloud of suspicion hangs over Nova Scotia legislature after revelation that five politicians may face criminal charges at metronews.ca/canada
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One released from jail, another stays

Teenager facing breach of probation charge along with reckless driving rap in fatal weekend crash

PHILIP CROUCHER
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One of two 18-year-olds facing charges after a fatal motor vehicle accident claimed the life of David Alexander Julien will remain behind bars until at least tomorrow.

Matthew Lesley Grimm and Thomas Glen Dixon, both of Cole Harbour, were charged yesterday in relation to the crash on Cranberry Crescent in Dartmouth around 10 p.m. on Sunday.

Grimm, who Halifax Regional Police say was behind the wheel of the white Honda Accord that sped out of control and slammed into a power pole, is charged with dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing death, two counts of breach of an undertaking and one count of breach of probation.

The breach of probation charge stems from a sentence in December for theft under \$5,000. The maximum sentence for dangerous operation of a motor vehicle causing death is 14 years in prison.

In Dartmouth provincial court yesterday, Grimm was remanded to the Burnside jail with another court appearance set for Thursday, where it should be de-



David Julien

Further charges

Police are still investigating the fatal crash and further charges are possible, mostly under the Motor Vehicle Act. **WITH FILES FROM ALEX ROBINSON/ FOR METRO HALIFAX**

termined whether he receives bail or not.

His arraignment hearing was held over yesterday.

Dixon is facing one charge of breach of an undertaking. He was released on bail with conditions and is due back in court on June 18.

The two made brief appearances in court separately. Neither said anything, but Grimm could be seen trying to communicate non-verbally several times with people sitting in the courtroom gallery.

Witnesses say after the crash, the driver and other passenger took off running from the vehicle while the victim, who wasn't wearing a seatbelt, was unconscious in the back seat.

Julien, a Dartmouth resident and Grade 10 student at Prince Andrew High School, was assisted by several nearby residents at the crash site, and later by paramedics, but died at the scene. Grimm and Dixon



Thomas Glen Dixon, 18, is released from Dartmouth provincial court yesterday. Dixon was a passenger in the car that was involved in the fatal crash on Sunday night that killed 15-year-old David Alexander Julien. Dixon is charged with one count of breach of an undertaking. He was released on bail until his next court date in June.

turned themselves into police just before noon on Monday.

"They did the right thing by turning themselves in," police spokeswoman Theresa Rath said yesterday.

"That helped us in our investigation."

Rath said speed and alcohol were factors in the crash, but based on the investigation, there's not enough evidence to proceed with a charge of impaired driving.

She also said no charges were laid for leaving the scene of an accident be-



The white Honda Accord that smashed into a pole on a residential street in Dartmouth on Sunday night.

cause it's alleged the two people left on foot and, under the Criminal Code of

Canada, a vehicle must have left the accident scene for the charge to be laid.

Teen says 'sorry' in death of student

CRASH Matthew Lesley Grimm said "sorry" as sheriffs were escorting him from the Dartmouth provincial courthouse yesterday afternoon.

Grimm was asked by a reporter if he had anything to say to the family of David Alexander Julien, the 15-year-old victim of Sunday's fatal single-vehicle crash in Dartmouth for which Grimm is accused of being responsible.

Grimm, who police say was driving the car that crashed into a pole, responded with "sorry" before being placed into the sheriff's van.

Grimm will remain in custody at the Burnside jail until an arraignment hearing takes place tomorrow.

Thomas Glen Dixon, the other passenger in the car besides the victim was granted bail and left the courthouse without comment with a hooded sweatshirt draped over his face.

ALEX ROBINSON/ FOR METRO HALIFAX

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Attempted murder charge for ex-con

PHILIP CROUCHER
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SHOOTING A man with a lengthy criminal history is facing charges including attempted murder in relation to a shooting at a clothing and hairdressing shop in Lower Sackville last month.

Joseph Endelle Chan, 29, is also facing 11 weapons charges and is scheduled to appear in Halifax provincial court on May 31 for an arraignment hearing.

Chan was arrested by Halifax Regional Police on April 15 when officers al-

lege they noticed a man walking in public with an open beer can.

Police say the man, later identified as Chan, then ran from the officers and attempted to evade them by hiding between parked cars.

Police say they located the man and a brief struggle ensued. A search of the area turned up a handgun and some hash.

That handgun then underwent testing by police and Halifax Royal Canadian Mounted Police said yesterday it was tied to the shooting in Lower Sackville.

"It's all evidentiary now."

Cpl. Joe Taplin, spokesman, Royal Canadian Mounted Police

In that incident on April 8, police say a man with a bandana or shirt covering his face entered Catch a Look Clothing Barber Shop and got into an argument with a patron.

Police say the man then proceeded to pull out a gun and shots were fired.

The man then fled the area in a red four-door vehicle.

Six people were in the store at the time. There were no injuries.

RCMP spokesman Cpl. Joe Taplin wouldn't disclose the motive for the shooting, saying "it's all evidentiary now."

Chan has been at the Burnside jail since his arrest on April 15.

Since 2000, Joseph Endelle Chan has been found guilty for various offences, among them being robbery, possession of a loaded weapon and resisting arrest.

Wanted man in local murder may be in Calgary: RCMP

SHOOTING RCMP in Antigonish say a man wanted on a Canada-wide warrant in a fatal New Year's Eve brawl may be in Calgary.

Robert Harris Lamb faces a charge of second-degree murder in the death of 25-

year-old Jonathan Beaton.

Beaton died in hospital early on Jan. 1, about four hours after police were called to a large brawl that broke out at a house party in Antigonish.

Lamb was charged on

Feb. 1, but RCMP said they heard shortly after that the 20-year-old had left Nova Scotia.

Staff Sgt. Tony Perry says investigators believe family or friends are providing shelter and food for the

Halifax-area man in Calgary.

Perry says his detachment has been in touch with a specialized unit in Calgary that tracks down fugitives.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Police will be out in full force for Canada Road Safety Week

Police in HRM are urging motorists to drive safely for Canada Road Safety Week, a national campaign that began yesterday and runs through May 24. Police say they will be conducting roadside traffic safety checkpoints during the campaign, including for speeding and cellphone violations. **METRO HALIFAX**

HRM's budget 'by no means pain-free'

Council to discuss tax increases, user fee hikes and job cuts in attempt to balance books

JENNIFER TAPLIN

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HRM is tightening its belt and it's going to hurt a little.

Staff released the 2010-11 budget at the Halifax regional council meeting last night and if it's approved taxes and some fees will go up while some HRM services will be reduced.

"The new budget is by no means pain-free," warned chief administration officer Dan English.

Staff used an average house assessed at \$180,200 and within a kilometre of transit to calculate the tax increases: A 1.7 per cent general tax increase along with increases to the transit rate and others will mean an extra \$56 on the tax bill.

Staff are trying to cut ex-

"We have to get comfortable saying no."

Cathie O'Toole, HRM director of finance

penses and raise revenues to compensate for a \$35.5-million shortfall.

Transit expansion, compensation increases to staff, the province increasing the HST, and a hit on solid waste operations are a few reasons why the municipal-

ity is struggling to balance its books this year.

For residents it could mean a higher tax bill but also no weekly summer green cart service, increase in many user fees and reductions to several city-run programs.

Staff are expecting these changes to take effect July 1.

For HRM staff it means fewer jobs. Six or seven workers have been laid off in the reduction of visitor information centres and cemetery services. Sixty full-time positions will be lost through attrition and hiring freezes. It's proposed the city will also cancel its holiday service at the call

centre.

Cathie O'Toole, director of finance, told council it may need to get used to the fact the same level of service may not be there.

"We have to get comfortable saying no," she said.

Councillors tabled the budget at their meeting last night and agreed not to debate it until after several workshops this week and a debate on Friday.

Sable Island to be designated a national park

ENVIRONMENT Sable Island, the crescent-shaped spit of land famed for its wild horses and sand dunes, will be designated a national park, the federal and Nova Scotia governments announced yesterday.

Federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice said the designation, which will follow a round of public consultations, will give the ecologically sensitive island the highest level of protection under federal law.

"It's the gold standard of ecological protection," Prentice told a news conference in Ottawa.

"Having Sable Island within the family of our treasured places, as part of a national parks system, gives us the greatest control over protecting its future."

The windswept 40-kilometre long island sits about 180 kilometres southeast of Nova Scotia.

Mark Butler, policy director for the Halifax-based Ecology Action Centre, applauded the governments' decision to create a park rather than designate the island a national wildlife area under the Canada Wildlife Act.

"Unfortunately, the

Consultations

- Provincial Natural Resources Minister John MacDonell said public consultations, which begin next month, will help determine how many people can visit the island and how the new park will be operated. However, Federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice made it clear the island will not be off limits to sightseers.

Canadian Wildlife Service, which manages wildlife areas, has very little resources and experience managing remote sites," he said in an interview. "Parks Canada has much more experience in that domain."

Butler said the key consideration in drafting the island's management plan will be the limits set on park visitors. When the idea of making the island a national park was first raised in January, critics said Sable's fragile habitat could be harmed by a sudden influx of tourists.

"I would like to see more virtual visits to the island than real visits," Butler said. "It's important that we don't love the place to death."

He said it would be a



Federal Environment Minister Jim Prentice makes an announcement in Ottawa yesterday that the government has started the process to designate Sable Island as a national park.

mistake to build infrastructure to accommodate more visitors because the island can barely sustain the small number of researchers who work there.

Alan Latourelle, CEO of Parks Canada, said that won't happen.

"I don't see us building significant new infrastruc-

ture," he said in an interview. "In certain circumstances, we build infrastructure, but it's to protect either species or vegetation."

Between 100 and 200 people visit the island every year. About 50 are researchers and the rest are researchers or employees of Environment Canada,

and Fisheries and Oceans Canada.

Aside from its wild beauty, Sable Island is also known as a potentially rich resource for natural gas. The Sable Offshore Energy Project, which includes wells within sight of the island, has been in production since 1999.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Procedural errors led to suspension

TRURO Accounting discrepancies within the student association at the Nova Scotia Community College's Truro campus recently led to the group's temporary suspension.

But a college official, citing privacy issues, would not provide specific details of what happened.

Gina Brown, director of marketing and communication, said the college does random audits at four campuses each year. Truro campus was audited this year and from the examination of the student association, recommendations were made and a review started.

"We don't want to discuss (the dollar amount) because it really was not a significant amount of money. It's more about the procedures that were not followed to the T," said Brown.

The student association is responsible for an annual budget of more than \$100,000.

In this case "there were no missing assets, like inventory, equipment or alcohol."

TRURO DAILY NEWS



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No grants for smart women?

Not one woman was among the recipients this week when Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government handed out big dollars for big thinkers.

Of the 19 people who were selected to be the first of the "prestigious" Canada Excellence Research Chairs, receiving up to \$10 million in total in federal money over the next seven years, all were men.

Some women scholars are outraged, and even Industry Minister Tony Clement is concerned by the total shutout of female researchers.

It comes when the Conservative government is already under criticism for how it is handling women's issues — the new ban on support for abortions in overseas aid, cuts to

"I felt kicked in the stomach."

Wendy Robbins, women's studies co-ordinator, University of New Brunswick

women's advocacy groups and the winding-down of the long-gun registry.

"I felt kicked in the stomach," says Wendy Robbins, co-ordinator of women's studies at the University of New Brunswick and one of a group of academics who mounted a successful human-rights challenge to the gender imbalance in a

previous, federal research-chair program.

On this issue, though, the Conservative minister in charge is sympathetic.

"It really stands out, and I said: 'Where are the women?'" Clement said yesterday, a day after the research chairs, billed as the "world's most renowned," were announced with much fanfare in Ottawa.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



A Canadian director's first trip to Cannes proves to be delightfully 'surreal.'

Scan this code for the story. Learn how to scan on the local page.

Explosion kills Canadian colonel

AFGHANISTAN The highest-ranking member of the Canadian Forces to die to date in Afghanistan was a career infantryman and "rising star," admired for his smarts and professionalism and loved as a friend with an infectious sense of humour, one of his fellow colonels said yesterday.



Col. Geoff Parker

Col. Geoff Parker, 42, a one-time commanding officer of the 2nd Battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment,

was killed when a man believed to be working for the Taliban drove a car full of explosives into a NATO convoy during morning rush hour on the edge of Kabul.

The attack also killed 12 Afghan civilians and five U.S. soldiers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Ottawa Anarchists claim bank fire



An anarchist group that claims to have firebombed a bank in Ottawa yesterday morning are vowing to take their protests to the G8 and G20 summits being held in Ontario next month. The group claims the fire was set because Royal Bank was a sponsor of the Vancouver Olympics which was held "on stolen indigenous land."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Pull out of oilsands: Top NASA scientist

ENVIRONMENT NASA's top scientist wants to persuade the prime minister of Norway to order the country's state-owned energy giant to get out of Alberta's oilsands.

James Hansen wrote an open letter in a Norwegian newspaper asking the government to end the involvement of Statoil, the state-owned oil company, in the Alberta oilsands.

Hansen, known for his strong views on climate change, said Norway may be more willing to lead by example than other countries.



Thai soldiers run to take cover near an anti-government barricade earlier today in Bangkok.

Thai troops open fire

CLASH Thai troops opened fire earlier today into the fortified encampment of anti-government protesters in downtown Bangkok, ramming armoured vehicles into its tire-and-bamboo barricade in what appears to be a final crack-down after a week of deadly clashes.

Associated Press reporters saw the troops firing automatic rifles from an overpass overlooking the encampment. Groups

"This is D-Day."
Thai soldier

of soldiers also fired from crouching positions on the tracks of an elevated light rail system that runs over the encampment.

There was no word on any casualties.

"This is D-Day," said one soldier when asked if this was the final push to clear the protest zone.

Thick black smoke from a mountain of burning tires darkened the skies, billowing over the skyscrapers of this Asian metropolis of 10 million that has descended into chaos over the last week, with at least 39 killed. The demonstrators marched into Bangkok in mid-March to demand the resignation of Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva, dissolution of Parliament and immediate elections.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Swingers case highlights shifting morality in China

SEX They were members of a modern-day swingers' club in China, where people met online and then gathered in homes or hotels for group sex parties involving dozens of men and women.

Last month, Ma Yaohai, a 53-year-old college professor, and 21 others went on trial in the city of Nanjing, accused of "group licentiousness" — the first time anyone has been charged under a 1997 law in a case that has snagged huge public interest with its titillating details.

But aside from rampant curiosity in the swinger lifestyle, the uproar also touched off a deeper debate about sexual freedom in a country that is trying to reshape its own modern morality. A verdict on Ma, the only member to plead innocent, is expected to-

morrow, said his lawyer, Yao Yongan. The charge carries a maximum sentence of five years in prison.

Much of the public scrutiny has been on the lifestyle of "partner swapping," as it's known in Chinese.

Newspapers have noted the lurid details: The Internet chat room Ma set up for swingers was called "Travelling Couples," his personal sign-on was "bighorny-fire," his orgies were sometimes held in the small apartment he shares with his Alzheimer's-stricken mother.

His trial highlights the vast social changes that China has undergone in the decades since it embraced economic reform, as many question whether China's laws on sexual behaviour are lagging behind the times.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

News in brief

NUCLEAR The U.S. introduced a UN resolution aimed at Iran's suspected nuclear weapons program yesterday, having won long-sought and pivotal support from China and Russia for new sanctions against its powerful Revolutionary Guard and new measures to try to curtail Iran's military, financial and shipping activities. The draft resolution would freeze assets of nuclear-related companies linked to the Revolutionary Guard. The Obama administration has doggedly pursued sanctions since Iran rebuffed U.S. overtures last year.

MARS Scientists say it's time to search for life on Mars again — something NASA hasn't done directly since 1976. This time, there's a push to bring Martian rock and soil samples back to Earth. Here, they could be analyzed for fossilized traces of alien bacteria, or chemical or biological clues that could only be explained by something that was alive.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Comment & Views

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Comment

One backward leap for mankind

TheWestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

Space. The final frontier. And this time we mean it. The shuttle Atlantis is now orbiting Earth for the last time and, by year end, the entire program will be shut down.

If astronauts want to get

to the International Space Station, they'll have to hitch a ride with the Russians, at least until private companies vying for the concession are ready to take off.

I can hardly wait for that: "Welcome to American Star Lines. We're sorry for the 36-hour delay, but we had some problems with the transporter beam. If you're one of those passengers whose luggage was inadvertently sent on to Alpha Centauri, please see our baggage personnel at the ISS. Meanwhile, sit

back and enjoy the flight. There will be a \$100 charge for oxygen. Please have the correct change ready."

The shutdown of the shuttle program is a big blow — even bigger is Barack Obama's decision not to pursue a U.S. moon landing program, one of the few really positive ideas George W. Bush ever had.

Obama is targeting a manned orbit of Mars by 2035, but that's 25 years away. As of right now, the U.S. space program is grounded.

For a generation raised on Star Trek, that's unacceptable. I know it's fashionable to disparage the space program, especially in a recession when we need money for the little things ... like food.

But as extreme ayatollahs in Iran build nuclear bombs and we sweat the hottest decade in history, is it such a good idea to shut off our escape route? And am I the only one who sleeps better at night knowing there's a little coed \$100-billion seed pod of humanity orbiting the

Earth ... just in case the ayatollahs finally do learn to lock and load?

As Neil Armstrong, the first man on the moon, said to U.S. Congress recently, Obama's act "destines our nation to become one of second- or even third-rate stature." Which puts the U.S. right in line with its happily second- or third-rate neighbour to the north. We've been punching below our weight for so long we can give our American cousins mediocrity lessons.

If we Canadians were

men and women of vision and gumption we would pick up the space baton and head for the wide-open galaxies. Instead of just building the space arm gizmo on the mother ship, we could build the whole mother ship. First stop, the moon. Then? In the immortal words of Buzz Lightyear: Infinity and beyond!

Er, excuse me. Once in a while my inner 11-year-old takes over. It's a problem.

Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

Word on the street: Karate Kid has been remade. What movie would you like to see get a modern update?

Ashley Croft

Dartmouth

A: Ghost. I think it's a cute, sappy love story that could be redone with different people.



Tom Nightingale

Dartmouth

A: Maybe Gone With The Wind. Not even set in the Civil War, but something more modern with one of our more contemporary wars or disasters. I think it's a story that has more life in it.



Terri Urquhart

Dartmouth

A: Maybe a really old movie I love with Bette Davis and Joan Crawford called Whatever Happened to Baby Jane. It was even before my time but it was an excellent movie.



Andrew Ellerman

Vancouver

A: Ghostbusters. It would be fun to see new weapons. I loved Ghostbusters as a kid. I had T-shirts and everything.



Cassandra Smith

Edmonton

A: Maybe something like Flash Dance or even Dirty Dancing because I danced my whole life, and when I was a young girl those were some (things) that I was passionate about.



Shane Butterly

Toronto

A: Good movies shouldn't be remade. If it's good, leave it alone. It should be left. These days, there's too many remakes being made.



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Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Facebook to use virtual money for more games

Facebook Inc., the world's largest social networking site, said its virtual currency will be used in more games from Zynga Game Network Inc., as part of a five-year relationship between the two companies. Zynga is testing the currency, called Facebook Credits, in some games and will expand it to more in coming months, the companies said yesterday. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

9

Business

DOLLAR	GAS	OIL	TSX
<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">US 96.43¢</div> <div>US 0.31¢</div> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">US \$4.342</div> <div>US 5.6¢</div> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">US \$69.41</div> <div>US 0.67¢</div> </div> </div>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div> <div style="font-weight: bold;">11,764.51</div> <div>48.49</div> </div> </div>

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

France **Absinthe back en vogue**



JACQUES BRONCHET/ASSOCIATED PRESS

Franck Choisine, the owner of the Combier distillery, in Saumur, Loire Valley, France, pours plants in a still to make absinthe. Combier profited from a recent resurgence in the U.S. of interest in absinthe, a strongly alcoholic drink flavoured with wormwood and other plants that was once almost as popular as wine in French bistros, until it was banned in 1915. In France, however, absinthe is technically still illegal.

Historic agreement

Forestry firms, environmental groups unite

Canada's top pulp and paper companies have agreed to stop logging on 29 million hectares of northern forest in a historic agreement with environmental groups, forging an alliance that unites two traditional adversaries.

The Canadian Boreal Forest Agreement announcement yesterday in Toronto followed three years of negotiations and a fierce public relations campaign against some practices of Canada's forest products industry.

"The importance of this agreement cannot be overstated," said Avrim Lazar, president and CEO of the Forest Products Association of Canada.

"In the long run, it will be more important in terms of its impact as a model of how to approach the hard problems of integrating environment and economy the whole world is facing," he said.



Richard Brooks

FPAC has committed to the highest environmental standards under an agreement that covers 72 million hectares of public land, an area bigger than Alberta and equalling about eight per cent of Canada's total land.

The agreement, which was reached just days before the announcement, calls for the suspension of

new logging on 29 million hectares of the country's so-called boreal forest in British Columbia, Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario.

Richard Brooks of Greenpeace Canada and a spokesman for the environmental groups said concerns from the public and the marketplace about wilderness conservation were key to arriving at the agreement.

"The forest products association and its 21 member companies are responding to the demand for greener products and that marketplace is going to pay close attention," he added.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Interest rate hikes on the way?

MARKETS Canadians likely have only two weeks left to enjoy historically low interest rates.

With global markets beginning to stabilize following the recent fears over a Greek debt default, economists say the pieces are falling into place for the Bank of Canada to move off its emergency 0.25 per cent rate June 1.

Economists have already pencilled in a doubling of the policy rate in two weeks. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Shady dealings doom a string of China's new tycoons to lengthy prison stays

Scan code for more. Learn how to scan on the Local page.

There's a Fiesta coming to your town this week. And everyone's invited.



For years Atlantic Canada has welcomed newcomers from across the ocean. So we thought, what better place to introduce the all-new 2011 Ford Fiesta? It arrives in summer 2010, but right now you can get a sneak preview of this hot-selling, award-winning European subcompact car at your local Atlantic Ford Store. It's your chance to come down and be among the first in Canada to see what the Ford Fiesta is all about.



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Fiesta Tour Event
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FAIRLEY & STEVENS LIMITED
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902-463-1220

Fiesta Tour Event
May 19th, 2010



The newest Premier Basketball League franchise will be named SouthCoast United and base itself in Fall River, Mass. The Massachusetts-based NBC website turnto10.com reports the franchise will join the PBL for the 2011 season. **METRO HALIFAX**

Sports

EDITOR: DON.MCHOULL@METRONEWS.CA

Jazic nearing return

Ante Jazic, a veteran defender from Bedford, is "close" to returning to the lineup with Major League Soccer's Chivas USA, according to the Daily Breeze newspaper in Torrance, Calif. Jazic, 34, has been out for a month with a knee injury.

METRO HALIFAX



High hopes for Dunbrack after flurry of additions

SOCCER Fresh off a provincial women's soccer title and a national bronze medal, Halifax Dunbrack has stacked the deck to go for gold.

Dunbrack, which is preparing to open the Nova Scotia Soccer League Premiership season next week, benefited when rival Halifax City decided to fold earlier this month, picking up four key players from the 2008 national champs.

All-stars Hannah Abenheimer at midfield and Ally Read on the back line, along with midfielder Rieka Santilli and defender Laurel Fougere, have joined Dunbrack's forces. The club has also added

Liz Cook, a keeper who previously starred at the NCAA Division I level with Hartford and won a national senior championship in 2004 with Halifax Athens.

Throw in the likes of reigning league MVP and Golden Boot winner Leanne Huck up front, all-star Mel Clarke on defence and supporting goal-scorers Katie Richard and Teresa Morrison, and you have quite a mix.

"If we get everybody to come together, this team has the player base to compete for a gold medal," said Dunbrack head coach Jack Hutchison. "We would definitely be a team in contention."

MATTHEW WUEST/
METRO HALIFAX



Jack Hutchison

'That's the way I like it'

City may be flying under radar again, but its coach has no qualms

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

For a team with six provincial men's soccer titles in the past seven years, Halifax City has an inexplicable way of flying under the radar.

Whether it's the club's tendency to post ordinary results throughout the regular season or the fact its roster is laden with 30-something veterans who critics perceive as long in the tooth, City is one of those teams that never seems to be the favourite until the final whistle sounds.

With another Nova Scotia Soccer League Premiership season set to open on Saturday, has that changed?

"I doubt it," responded City head coach Darrell Cormier. "But that's the way I like it."

City, with a combined record of 20-9-5 the past two regular seasons, has ousted Halifax Dunbrack, a team still riding a 34-game regular-season unbeaten streak, in back-to-back provincial finals.

City's veteran core, which has been around for most of the past decade, is back for another crack at it, led by strikers Kristin Kirincich and Mat Budreski, midfielders Kevin Steeves and Carl Ensinger, and defender Jamie Sawler, among many



Striker Kristin Kirincich, right, a former Nova Scotia Soccer League Premiership MVP, is part of the veteran core that returns for three-time defending provincial champion Halifax City.

others.

And in goal, Cormier describes Graham Little as "one of the best in the province."

The club will receive another boost with the addition of former NCAA Division I all-American Dylan Sheehan from the Brown Bears and former Premiership all-star Chris Coxon on defence.

Meanwhile, Cormier is hoping to integrate five

Canada Games standouts into the lineup along with emerging youngsters such as striker Jonathan Hammond and midfielder Stuart MacAdam.

"The older guys are all about trying to help the young guys get the time and knowledge they need to become champions themselves," Cormier said. "Hopefully, I'll never say we're in a transition year. I hate the way that sounds."

Dunbrack has lost reigning Premiership MVP Derek Gaudet at midfield, while several other mainstays have moved over to Dartmouth United. City expects a tough test from both rivals among others in the eight-team circuit.

"Hopefully it's going to be a great season for everyone," Cormier said. "We'll have some fun trying to figure out who's the best again."

Sports in brief

GOLF The LPGA Tour is returning to the Montreal area. The 2011 CN Canadian Women's Open will be held at Hillsdale Golf and Country Club in Mirabel, Que., about 35 kilometres northwest of Montreal. The tournament

will be held Aug. 22-28, 2011, with an expected purse of \$2.25 million U.S. Golf Canada CEO Scott Simmons said Hillsdale represents an ideal locale for the lone LPGA Tour stop in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Carleton lands 2013-14 CIS basketball championships

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

HOST The Final 8's stay at the Metro Centre will be short-lived.

Carleton University was announced yesterday as the only bidder to host the 2013 and 2014 Canadian Interuniversity Sport men's basketball championships and — by default, unless something unforeseen occurs — will host the events at Scotiabank Place.

Atlantic University Sport is hosting the 2011 and 2012 Final 8s in Halifax.

CIS chief executive officer Marg McGregor said

rubberstamping Carleton's bid should be a "mere formality" next month.

"We're delighted," she said. "We know from the Carleton experience in the last three years, they did an outstanding job. It was well-received in the nation's capital and we're pleased Carleton stepped forward again."

After the tournament was hosted by the AUS in Halifax for 24 straight years from 1984 to 2007, Carleton hosted the championship from 2008 to 2010.

Attendance dropped by 29,000 from 2008 to 2010 in Ottawa, a decrease of almost 36 per cent, according to numbers published in the Ottawa Citizen.

The AUS did not submit a bid for the 2013 and 2014 tournaments because it wanted to first test the CIS's new financial model in 2011, according to executive director Phil Currie. Currie said the new model sees the CIS take 75 per cent of sponsorship inventory instead of handing it

all over to the host.

Dalhousie University, meanwhile, learned yesterday it will face competition from five other schools in its bid to host the 2013 and 2014 University Cup men's hockey tournaments.

Alberta, Calgary, Regina, Saskatchewan and Nipissing in North Bay, Ont., have all submitted competing bids.

"It's probably a record," McGregor said. "With so many schools in the running, it ensures whoever does get it will have a quality event." The CIS selection committee will meet the week of June 21 to 25 to determine the winning bids.

"... We're pleased Carleton stepped forward again."

Marg McGregor, CIS

Wizards win draft lottery

The Washington Wizards have won the NBA's draft lottery and will have the No. 1 pick in next month's draft. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

sports 11

Déjà vu: Leighton has Habs' number

(Flyers lead series 2-0)

Canadiens 0 Flyers 3



Michael Leighton made 30 saves to post his second straight shutout and Quebec natives Daniel Briere and Simon Gagne scored as the Philadelphia Flyers downed the Montreal Canadiens 3-0 in the NHL playoffs last night.

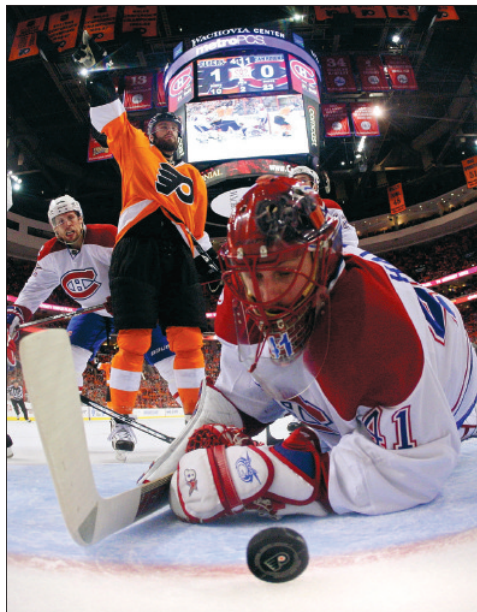
Ville Leino also scored for the Flyers, who lead the best-of-seven Eastern Conference final 2-0, with the scene now switching to Montreal for Game 3 tomorrow night.

Leighton, who shut out Montreal 6-0 in the opener, is now 4-0 in career playoff starts and has stopped all 58 shots he has faced in the series.

Montreal outshot the Flyers 30-23 overall, and it was a second difficult game for goaltender Jaroslav Halak. The hero of Montreal's upset wins over Washington and Pittsburgh in the first two rounds struggled again after he was pulled for allowing four goals in 14 shots in Game 1.

Halak now has a 7-2-1 career record in games after he was pulled. He bounced back with strong performances in the first two rounds after being pulled but couldn't do it this time.

The Flyers, who came back to beat Boston with four consecutive wins, won a sixth straight playoff



Montreal Canadiens goalie Jaroslav Halak gives up a goal to Philadelphia Flyer Simon Gagne, not pictured, last night.

game for the first time since they did it in 1995 against Buffalo and the New York Rangers. Philadelphia is 16-0 all-time when going up 2-0 in a series.

The game opened exactly as it did in Game 1, with Montreal getting an early power play negated by a call against Scott Gomez and then Philadelphia scoring with its man advantage.

Last game, it was Braydon Coburn at 3:55 of the first period. This time, it was Briere roofing a shot from close range at 4:16 for

his ninth of the post-season to give the Flyers the lead.

And like Game 1, Montreal dominated the shots —13-6 last time, 16-6 this time — but couldn't beat Leighton for a fourth straight period. The difference was that this time Montreal also dominated the play.

The Canadiens had the puck much of the second frame as well, but got few good chances and the Flyers extended their lead with their second power-play goal in as many chances. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Spitfires eliminate Wildcats with 4-3 win in overtime

MEMORIAL CUP Eric Wellwood scored in overtime to send the Windsor Spitfires into the championship final at the MasterCard Memorial Cup with a perfect record, eliminating the Moncton Wildcats from the tournament with a dramatic 4-3 win yesterday.

Philipp Grubauer made 38 saves to help secure the victory and a 3-0 record for the Spitfires, who battled through the haze of indifference in the first two periods of the game.

Moncton fell to 0-3 in defeat, which means the tournament will not require a tie-breaking game tomorrow.

Instead, the Calgary Hit-

men and host Brandon Wheat Kings — who meet in the round-robin finale today — will play each other again in the semifinal on Friday for the right to face the Spitfires in Sunday's title game.

Moncton's star-crossed time in Brandon ended without any help from injured forward Nicolas Deschamps, who was forced to miss yet another game with the undisclosed lower body injury that has kept him on the sidelines since last month.

The Wildcats put up a brave fight, but ultimately fell to a team seeking to defend its Canadian junior hockey title.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

SCOREBOARD

NHL PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Philadelphia 3 Montreal 0 (Philadelphia leads series 2-0)
Chicago at San Jose

NBA PLAYOFFS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Boston 95 Orlando 92 (Boston leads series 2-0)

TODAY'S GAME

Phoenix at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m. (Lakers lead series 1-0)

IIHF CHAMPIONSHIP

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Czech Republic 3 Canada 2
Germany 2 Slovakia 1
Sweden 5 Switzerland 0
Russia 5 Finland 0

BASEBALL

YESTERDAY'S AL RESULTS

Toronto 11 Minnesota 2
Baltimore 4 Kansas City 3 (10 innings)
Chicago White Sox 6 Detroit 2
Tampa Bay 6 Cleveland 2
Texas 8 L.A. Angels 7
Boston at N.Y. Yankees
Seattle at Oakland

YESTERDAY'S NL RESULTS

Atlanta 3 N.Y. Mets 2
Chicago Cubs 6 Colorado 2
Cincinnati 5 Milwaukee 4
Florida 8 Arizona 0
Pittsburgh 3 Philadelphia 1
St. Louis 3 Washington 2
San Francisco at San Diego
Houston at L.A. Dodgers

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Canada has announced new regulations for child car seat testing, which the government said are unprecedented and world-leading. Compliance with the new regulations will be optional until Jan. 1, 2011, when they will become mandatory for all manufacturers. CANADIANDRIVER.COM

New child seat regulations coming

Metro Drive

Obama's ride sold

A well-worn 2000 Jeep Grand Cherokee recently went for \$26,000 US at auction, some eight times the estimated value of similar vehicles, due to it being formerly owned by U.S. president Barack Obama.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONWS.CA

Summer blockbusters

MICHAEL GOETZ
for Metro Canada

The loudest setting on guitar amps is 10. The exceptions of course, are the amps of Spinal Tap's Nigel Tufnel. All his "go to 11." He knows 11 is special, magical even. How about for vehicles? Will model year 2011 be special?

We'll soon find out, as many notable 2011 model year vehicles arrive at dealerships through the summer and early fall.

Following are some early 2011 models that we feel will make some serious noise (in a good way) with potential buyers. While there will be

plenty of expensive, dream cars to heat up summer, we're keeping things under 50 grand, and keeping a particular eye on the brace of exciting new products which thrive in urban environments.

FORD FIESTA

The new Fiesta has had a bit too much preamble, but the new "premium" subcompact

does have a lot to offer. A new six-speed double-clutch automatic transmission is so efficient it nets better mileage (40 mpg) than the five-speed manual. Luxury options include leather, ambient lighting, and SYNC. The \$12,999 base model is a four-door sedan. Five-door hatch models start at \$16,799.

MAZDA2

Unlike the rest of the world, we here in North America have been Mazda2-deprived. But all that changes this June when the subcompact arrives ready to flaunt its curvaceous lines and zoom-ability. In Canada, Mazda2 is only available as a five-door hatch, starting at \$13,995.

SCION TC

While Toyota's Scion division has been in the U.S. since 2002, the Canadian adventure begins this fall. One of the Scions that will be available from the "get go" will be the tC sport coupe, now featuring a 180-hp 2.5-litre engine, 18-inch wheels and fender flares.

NISSAN JUKE

You'd think there couldn't any more crossover niches, but here is the Nissan Juke, based on the same platform as Versa and Cube, but definitely going its own way, with extroverted styling, a new 180-hp engine, and an AWD system programmed to make cornering a hoot.

KIA SPORTAGE

Following on the heels of the 2011 Sorento crossover, is the slightly smaller Kia Sportage. Look for it on dealership lots by June, with a starting MSRP of \$21,995. Sportage features the Kia-Hyundai 2.4-litre I4



engine and lots of kit, including Vehicle Stability Management (VSM), which actually nudges the steering wheel to keep you tracking on your intended path.

BUICK REGAL

The midsize Buick Regal, starting at \$31,990, could be the new poster child for the re-incarnated GM. It's closely based on Opel Insignia (2009 European Car of the Year), and features the new and nifty 2.4-litre direct-injection 182-hp I4. Regal's CLX Turbo model (\$34,990) packs a 220-hp 2.0-litre I4.

JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE

Jeep Grand Cherokee has always been able to straddle

the line between comfortable people mover and competent rock climber, and the all-new 2011 version continues to work that dual theme. Based on the rear-drive, unibody platform of Mercedes-Benz ML, this new Jeep will also showcase Chrysler's new 3.6-litre V6. Pricing starts at \$37,995.

VOLVO S60

Interesting times for Volvo. China's Geely recently purchased the automaker and come September the all-new 2011 S60 arrives at dealerships to show off the brand's new design language. Prices start at \$45,450.

Hottest 2011 models under \$50K



The 2011 Ford Fiesta, above, will hit dealerships amidst a lot of hype; The Kia Sportage, top right, follows in the footsteps of Sorento; The much-anticipated Mazda2, bottom right, will be available in hatch-only form in Canada.

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Going down the road feeling appy

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

metronews.ca/autopilot

Rodney Dangerfield once had this to say about his dog: "He's so lazy, he don't chase cars. He just sits on the curb and takes down license plate numbers."

I don't think he was lazy. He was using his head — utilizing available information technology — just like many of us are doing now, by downloading all those new apps for iPhones, and other smartphones.

By far, the most popular automotive-related apps, all concern navigation and/or finding stuff. Which doesn't surprise me, we're always lost somehow.

Consider **G-Park**, which

will direct you back to your parked car.

In case you're wondering there is no G-Pants, which might direct you back to where you've forgotten your pants.

Other popular "finder" apps are **Trapster**, which helps you find speed traps, and the **Hortons Finder**, which helps you find, well, Tim Hortons coffee. As far as I know, the two are not related.

Toronto Traffic is an app that allows you quickly view all the city's traffic cameras, to help you plan your commute. It was so successful, you'll now also find Montreal Traffic, Vancouver Traffic, Calgary Traffic, and Quebec Traffic.

TomTom and **NAVIGON** are the biggest selling navigation apps on the iTunes app store, and unlike most apps, which are free or less than 10 bucks, these are on the pricey side, at \$59.99 and \$39.99, respectively.

Of course, the iPhone can be a good navigator and friend to car lovers, because it contains both a

GPS system and an accelerometer.

The latter measures forward and lateral G forces, so it's possible to measure acceleration, speed, distance travelled, engine power, etc. If you feel the need to do that, consider apps like **Dynolicious** or **GMeter**. Judging by some of the comments from users, they work well enough for enthusiasts, but probably wouldn't satisfy GM or NASA.

There are also a large number of apps that will help you track gas consumption, expenses, and maintenance requirements. Consider **Gas Cubby**, **Car Minder Plus**, or **Accufuel**.

You can go as deep as your obsessive-compulsive heart desires, with

exportable spread sheets, graphs, etc., or you can just set it to remind you to change the oil at least once during your lifetime.

There are also apps for vehicle shopping, like the **Car and Driver's Buyers Guide**, although be warned that all the ones I saw, feature only American information, so no Canadian models, or metric speak.

A few weeks ago, we talked about Canadian-based VehicleGateway.com, which is not technically

an app, but a website designed for phone browsers, allowing you to search for used vehicles and access third-party vehicle history reports.

There are also obviously many entertainment apps out there with automotive themes. The game **Grand Theft Auto: Chinatown Wars** has been recently released. But the number one free iPhone app right now is the **Volkswagen Touareg Challenge**, which is a blend of game, information package, and marketing message about the all-new 2011 Touareg.

I'll leave you to your own devices, to decide which automotive apps are for you. Apple, BlackBerry, Nokia, Palm, etc., all have "app" stores, and there are many more that can be found by searching the web.

Because most apps are free or extremely cheap, most people try a bunch, before settling on the ones that work

Behind a good app

• Mark Pavlidis, the software developer behind Montreal Traffic, Vancouver Traffic, etc., told us that the latest industry report pegs the number of phone apps currently available at 160,000 and counting. He also notes that the typical use case for any app is less than 30 seconds. "You basically fire it up, use it, and move on." As a developer he's keenly aware of how some apps are more "polished" than others. Look for apps that have obvious "touch points" on their pages, allow their pages to be flipped by finger swipes, and don't clutter up the phone's tiny display area with instructional text.

well and/or satisfy their particular needs and wants. So if you're not there yet, what's stopping you? Let's all get appy.

Michael Goetz has been writing about cars and editing automotive publications for over 20 years. He lives in Toronto with his family and a neglected 1967 Jaguar E-type.



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Das Auto.

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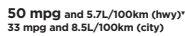
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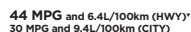
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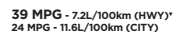
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Germaphobes beware!
Did you know that more bacteria and mould grow in vehicles than in houses? Or, that the typical car has 283 different types of bacteria present in every square inch?

These stats are not meant to scare you away from driving, instead they're offered to provide awareness of the best ways to protect yourself and your passengers from harmful contaminants. Below are tips on the best ways to minimize in-vehicle irritants.

Replace your Cabin Air Filter:
Airborne contaminants, such as pollen, exhaust fumes, soot and dust enter a vehicle through its heating, air conditioning and defrosting systems. A cabin air filter is designed to help capture and remove some of these pollutants in order to help improve air quality throughout the vehicle.

Today most vehicles come with a cabin air filter, but if it's not changed regularly (at least once a year) the filter may become dirty and clogged, which makes it harder to keep air clean. Cabin air filters not only remove road dust and particles passing through it, but the Fram Fresh Breeze also contains Arm and Hammer baking soda in order to absorb odours passing through a vehicle's ventilation system.

Washable plastic floor mats:
A vehicle's floor mats are exposed to everything that the bottoms of our shoes touch. With a collective mix of snow, mud, dirt, dust and other outdoor debris, vacuuming doesn't always do the trick. Washable plastic floor mats help protect your car from the build up of outdoor substances, while also keeping it looking new. This will also help preserve the vehicle's carpet and minimize soil.

Cleaning high use areas: Easy yet often overlooked is the habit of cleaning the areas in your vehicle that get touched the most. This would include cup holders, door handles, radio knobs and the steering wheel. Taking five minutes to wipe down these areas with an antibacterial wipe could save you a sick day in the long run.

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EDITOR: BEN.RYCROFT@METRONEWS.CA

Drink from Évian's beauty

Open and welcoming, this French town exceeds its reputation

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

Why splash your cash in Geneva when you can take a refreshing trip to the charming French town of Évian-les-Bains?

Metro tells you the reasons why a visit to Évian is worth the trip.

WHY GO NOW?

The purity and health benefits of Évian's mineral water were discovered at the end of the 18th century but it wasn't until the 1930s that its reputation as one of the world's premier spa towns was established. Évian water may be snobby in a bottle, but the town itself couldn't be more removed from that



With its spectacular pools, relaxing was never so easy

image, with unique surroundings and people who are open and welcoming.

IT'S MY FIRST TIME, WHAT SHOULD I DO?

With sweeping views across Lake Geneva, the Spa Hotel Royal (evianroy-

alresort.com) offers an array of activities. The Relaxation and Dynamisation package is perfect for overwhelmed, exhausted urbanites.

Treatments include reflexology, Reiki, seaweed

body wraps and there's also a sauna and on site beauty therapists. As nice as it is to be pampered, those that prefer the outdoors can choose the Golf and Spa option with access to the Evian Masters Golf Club.

I'VE BEEN BEFORE. WHAT SHOULD I DO?

Discover how a bottle of Evian gets from the water source to the supermarket shelf at the bottling plant located in the nearby town of Amphion-les-Bains. After a historical and geological video presentation, move over to the glass gallery where you will see the entire bottling process (5 million litres of water are bottled daily) from start to finish, the manu-

Among the Iranians

In *Among the Iranians*, Greek-born author Sofia A. Koutlaki shares the lessons she's learned firsthand as a foreigner living in Tehran. Koutlaki presents a side of Iran that foreigners rarely see in a practical guide, offering insight about Iranian dress, etiquette and even food.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



if you're looking for something more exciting, try para-gliding.

facturing, racking, conditioning and eventually, shipping.

BEST WAY TO SPEND AN AFTERNOON?

The town centre is a wonderful blend of French and Swiss heritage. The shops are small, quaint and arranged in an orderly manner (very Swiss) yet you cannot ignore the French "je ne sais quoi" as you hear the brouhaha of voices coming from the

bars and brasseries.

WHAT'S THE NIGHTLIFE LIKE?

Évian's nightlife is almost as still as its water. For an ebb and flow of activity, head towards the leafy lakefront. Port des Mouettes, the town's modern Marina has some fantastic terraces where you can sit and soak up the last rays of sunshine as you watch people on roller blades or a pied.



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Western Caribbean

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CRUISE roundtrip Miami and visit Grand Cayman, Ocho Rios & Cozumel.

Eastern Caribbean

9-Night Cruise from **\$599***
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CRUISE roundtrip Barcelona and visit Nice (Villefranche), Genoa, Florence/Pisa (Livorno), Rome (Civitavecchia) & Naples.

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Los Angeles Air + 3 Nights

from **\$749**
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San Diego Air + 5 Nights

from **\$749**
+ taxes & fees \$126

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Air + 3 Nights from **\$759**
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Slip into Saigon's soul

How to do Vietnam's largest city on a budget

ROMINA MCGUINNESS
Metro World News

Vietnam's largest city is a dizzying experience. From the screeching of motorbikes to the magnificent street food and rich cultural heritage, Ho Chi Minh, formerly Saigon, is a sparkling gem.

Here's how you can do it on a budget.

DAILY BUDGET

\$50 EAT

- Quan an Ngon

Gathered around individual cooking stations, top street chefs each sell their specialty. Sample a variety or be faithful to one. The noodle soups are divine.

STAY

- Thuan Thien Hotel

Central location on 277 Le Thanh Ton means you're within walking distance of Ben Thanh Market and the Notre Dame Cathedral (a reminder of the French colonial heritage). (agoda.com)

GO

- Binh Tay Market

Try a café sua da (iced coffee topped with condensed milk) from Café Terrace then head to the market and rummage through anything from candied fruit to duck eggs to flip-flops.



Feel the vibes as you stroll through Binh Tay Market.

More info

- For more info see tourism.hochiminhcity.gov.vn

DAILY BUDGET

\$100 EAT

- The Temple Club

Converted Chinese Temple on Ton That Thiep Street is a popular hangout for the expat and colonial community. Try "Long Va" grilled fish coated in peanut and garlic. Funky and eclectic vibe.

STAY

- Sunflower Hotel

Sunny and spacious with flawless service. Wi-Fi, breakfast and cable TV are included. And they will even do your laundry. Treat yourself to a massage or a bubbling Jacuzzi. (sunflower-saigon.com)

GO

- Dong Khoi Street

A magnet for Saigon's DIY fashionistas. Tailors Tricia and Verona in nearby Dong Street have a 24-hour turnaround and tailor made suits and dresses from \$34. (triciaandverona.com)

Get in gear with these gadgets

PACKING No trip is complete without the necessary provisions. We found a few things to make your trip easier.

Sea To Summit pocket towel

\$9 to \$15

- seatosummit.com

So it's a small towel right – big deal? Well, yes, but it's really, really small. The pouch it squeezes into can fit into your jeans pocket yet because of its awfully scientific microfibre make-up it does a pretty good job of getting you dry.

Anti-bacterial paper soap

\$3.47

- 101gear.com

Lighten the load a little and take paper soap with you when you travel. The little plastic case measures only 4.5 cm x 6.5cm and contains 30 sheets of anti-bacterial soap. Simply remove a sheet from the pack, add water and lather away. The paper soap pack doesn't contain liquid, so can be carried in hand luggage on flights and weighs very little. Mint and eucalyptus fragrance.

Sea To Summit Silicized Cordura Tar-Poncho

- seatosummit.com

Slightly weird-looking but dead handy all-in-one raincoat/tarp/pack cover/groundsheet. Seriously. It's made from super lightweight and waterproof Ultra-Sil fabric — which is obviously impervious to water — and the seams are securely taped to prevent seepage and it does seem to be made to a very high standard. It big



Cordura Tar-Poncho

enough to cover all but the most ridiculously huge packs. METRO NEWS SERVICES



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Big raise for Sheen
Charlie Sheen will not only be staying on for two more seasons of Two and a Half Men, the actor is getting a huge pay raise to the tune of nearly \$2 million US per episode, according to reports. **POPEATER.COM**

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Much Moore

Demi Moore is writing her autobiography. The 47-year-old actress is meeting with publishers in New York to sell the rights, her agent Luke Janklow has confirmed.

FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

Mock action hero

Big screen spinoff of SNL's MacGruber hijacks the genre

PHIL BROWN
for Metro Canada

It's been 10 years since the last time a character from Saturday Night Live got a feature length spinoff (that would be the underwhelming *The Ladies Man* for those keeping score at home), but this week a new entry in the comedy subgenre of SNL movies hits the big screen.

MacGruber started as a brief parody of the '80s DIY crimefighter MacGyver. The sketches were simple: MacGruber struggled to create a homemade bomb-defusing device while bickering with his scene partners before being blown up in a stock footage explosion.

These 90-second sketches struck a chord with audiences, peaking with a Super Bowl commercial featuring MacGyver himself, Richard Dean Anderson. It's not exactly a sketch begging for big screen treatment, but one that Will Forte and co-writer/director Jorma Taccone (known for his directing work on SNL's Internet-ready Digital Shorts) have turned into one of the best SNL movie spinoffs to ever theaters.

The reason MacGruber works as a film is because the creators didn't simply repeat their sketch formula, but expanded the scope of the character to create a

loving homage/parody of testosterone driven action films.

"It's a lot different than the sketch," Will Forte says. "I think people are expecting that it's just going to be the sketch over and over again for 90 minutes, but they should be pleasantly surprised by how different it is."

"I think in terms of the inspiration, the movie really came from our love of late '80s and early '90s action movies," says Jorma Taccone. "This was our attempt at making an ode to those movies, so we wanted everything surrounding MacGruber to be as deadpan and serious as possi-

ble. Our intention was to make it less goofy than you would expect from an SNL movie."

As a result, the film looks like a glossy blockbuster, is packed with explosions, and features a cast of dramatic actors like Val Kilmer and Powers Boothe playing their silly roles absolutely straight.

MacGruber doesn't feel like a movie rooted in sketch comedy, but a vintage action flick hijacked by some subversive comic minds willing to have their hero distract machine gun toting villains by stripping nude and using a stock of celery in an unnatural manner.

Sure, it's not exactly high art, but it is incredibly funny and surprisingly cinematic given the origins of the piece.

"When Lorne Michaels suggested the movie we were as skeptical as everyone else because let's face



MacGruber is a loving parody of testosterone-driven action films.

it, it's a sketch about a guy who blows up every week," says Forte. "We wanted to do something different and started throwing around all these insane ideas."

"Every step of the way we thought that someone

was going to come in and say, 'Oh, you can't do that.' But that never happened. We had so much freedom on this and really were able to make exactly the movie we wanted to make. It was shocking."

FROM THE BEST-SELLING AUTOBIOGRAPHY BY LI CUNXIN
A FILM DIRECTED BY BRUCE BERESFORD

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mongrel

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Daughtry set to be a dad again

Chris Daughtry is going to be a dad again. On his website, the American Idol rocker broke the news that he and wife Deanna Daughtry are expecting twins through a surrogate. **POPEATER.COM**



Cameron Diaz lends her voice as Princess Fiona again in *Shrek Forever After*, the fourth and final installment in the film series.



Fiona forever after

Shrek star Diaz shows off her warrior side

NED EHRBAR
Metro World News

It's hard to imagine anyone discussing a follow-up to something called *Shrek: The Final Chapter*, but star Cameron Diaz insists she's ready, willing and able to lend her voice as Princess Fiona again.

"It's easy. It's not like asking me if I'm going to do *Charlie's Angels* 10 years from now," Diaz says. "It's a little different fitting into those pants from 10 years ago. But with *Shrek* of course we get to go back to whatever they will be 10 years from now. And hopefully we won't have to wait that long."

After four films, Diaz definitely feels close to Princess Fiona, who in the latest chapter gets recast as something of a warrior princess, thanks to an It's a Wonderful Life-inspired plot plopping the titular ogre in a world in which he'd never been born. But for Diaz, Fiona with a bat-

tle axe wasn't much of a stretch. "Fiona's always been a warrior. It's just been a different tone for this film," she says. "She's been a warrior of love through all of these films — what she's worked for, what she's fought for is the love that she has for herself and the love that she has for Shrek and her family and friends."

And while the twisting plot gave her a chance to express a different side of her character, there are still some things Diaz herself would like to go back and undo. "When I first started the movie, when I did my voice, I didn't know who was playing my parents," she says. Diaz admits she would've gone for something a little more Anglican "if I had known that Fiona's parents both had British accents — that it was Julie Andrews and John Cleese. It was one of

those things like, 'Wait a second! How come I sound like I'm from California?'"

And while she might not resemble her green-skinned on-screen counterpart in real life that much, that hasn't saved Diaz from some uncomfortable fan encounters — though it's usually the parents. "I've had parents come up with their kids and say, 'Do you know who this is? This is Princess Fiona.' And the kids are literally in tears," Diaz says.

"I try to stop them before they tell them because as a kid, you fall in love with characters and you want them to be real. You don't want to believe there's a human being behind it. Same way you want to believe in Santa Claus or the Easter Bunny. So I'm always like, 'Please don't tell them. Don't.' Let Fiona exist as Fiona."

Shrek Forever After opens in theatres Friday

Video book by Guns N' Roses

MULTIMEDIA The latest Guns N' Roses project is not an album, a video or a book: It's all three.

The band has completed a multimedia edition of the biography *Reckless Road*, in which author Marc Canter tells of the making of Guns N' Roses' multimillion-selling debut *Appetite for Destruction*.

The video book goes on sale today and was produced by Vook, an Alameda, Calif.-based digital publisher.

Vook says the edition will include text, studio and concert footage and interviews with band members, but not lead singer Axl Rose. It has a suggested price of \$4.99 and can be downloaded from Vook's website.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

In brief

MUSIC Canada will be well-represented at this year's BET Awards. Toronto R&B singer Melanie Fiona nabbed four nominations for the 10th annual awards bash, while fellow Toronto native Drake took three nominations.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	
5/19/10	31	31	31	ABC	News Center 5	World News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	The Middle	The Middle (N)	Modern Family	Cougar Town	Primetime
	7	7	7	ASN	Road to Avonlea (DVS)	Degrassi: TNG	TMZ (N)	America's Next Top Model (N)	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order	Law & Order	National	
	11	11	11	CBC	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	22 Minutes	Laughs	Just for Laughs 25th Anniversary	Bons baisers de France (SC)	Le Téléjournal	CSI: NY	
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Chère Betty (HDTV) (SC)	Jeopardy! (N)	Squelettes	L'Épicerie	La Petite Séduction (N) (SC)				
	32	32	32	CBS	WBZ News (N)	Evening News	Wheel Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	I Get That a Lot (N)	Criminal Minds (N)			
	69	69	69	CFTM	TVI nouvelles	Le Cercle (SC)	Poule-œufs or	Deslauriers	Les Anges de la rénovation	Joannie Rochette			
	6	6	6	CHIF	Entertainment	ET Canada	The Good Guys "Pilot"		The Celebrity Apprentice The two finalist are determined.				
	9	9	9	CJCH	etalk	Access H.	CSI: NY "Point of View"		Criminal Minds (N)	American Idol			
	10	10	10	ELTV	Swap Shop (Live)		Fuelin' Around	Au Natural	Doc Talk	Fuelin' Around	Community Matters		
	36	36	36	FOX	Seinfeld	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	The Good Guys "Pilot"		American Idol		Fox First
primetime	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	Nightly News	Access H.	Extra (N)	Minute to Win It	Law & Order: SVU	Law & Order	Law & Order	
	29	29	29	NW	(6) Power & Politics		The Lang & O'Leary Exchange		Connect with Mark Kelley	CBC News: The National		National	
	4	4	4	PBS-B	PBS NewsHour (N)		Greater Boston	Auction	Secrets of the Dead (N)	Ground War (HDTV) (N)		Ground War	
	35	35	35	PBS-D	PBS NewsHour (N)		Business Rpt.	Steves Europe	Secrets of the Dead (N)	Ground War (HDTV) (N)		Ground War	
	68	68	68	TQS	Guerre clans	Atomes croch	Oncle Charlie	Veux-tu m'ép	Wipeout (SC)	True Blood (N) (SC)		L'Attaque à 5	
	23	96	96	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call Tonight		The Close	Market Call	Squeeze Play	Business News	
	18	18	18	CNN	Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer		John King, USA (N)		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)	Cooper 360	
	54	54	54	GOLF	Golf Central	Destination	19th Hole (HDTV) (Live)		Bobby Jones: Stroke of Genius ** (2004, Biography) Jim Caviezel.				
	52	52	52	RSE	Connected W-Prime Time		UEFA Highl	Sportsnet Con.	Hockey Memorial Cup: Teams TBA. (HDTV) (Live)				
	55	55	55	SCOR	Red Heat	Covers Experts	Bet Night Live				Fight Camp 360		Score Now
news	45	45	45	SPD	NASCAR Hall of Fame (HDTV)		NASCAR Race Hub (HDTV) (N)		NASCAR Hall of Fame (HDTV)		Sprint Pit Crew Challenge (HDTV)		
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	That's Hockey	Interruption	North American Poker Tour		NBA Basketball: Suns at Lakers		
	43	43	43	FAM	Han, Montana	Wizards-Place	Sonny-Chance	Suite Life	Overruled!	Han, Montana	Wizards-Place	Latest Buzz	Ned's School
	44	44	44	TOON	Jimmy Two	Johnny Test	Johnny Test	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futura	King of the Hill	American Dad	
	26	26	26	TREE	Guess-Jess	3rd and Bird	Backyardigans	Night Garden	Waybuloo	Toopy & Binoo	Franklin	Bucket-Dinos	Little Bear
	27	27	27	TYT	ICarly	To Be Indie	That's-Weird	Family Biz	Malcolm	Hates Chris	8 Simple Rules	Survive This	To Be Indie
	16	16	16	A&E	The First 48		The First 48 (HDTV)		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	
	70	70	70	APTN	APTN National News (N)		Investigates	Nunavik: A Vast Land	Down2Earth		Canadian Geographic	Mighty River	
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Top		10 countdown. (Live)		Tiny & Toya	Tiny & Toya	Bad Boys *** (1995, Action)		
	37	37	37	BRVO	Emily of New Moon		From the Spirit	Bravo/Videos	Arts & Minds	O'Reagan Files	Wingfield	Star Portraits	White Collar
family	25	25	25	CMT	The Show (N)	Totally	Amer. Funniest Home Videos		Reba	Reba	According-Jim	According-Jim	Home Improve.
	49	49	49	COM	Just for Laughs		Air Force	22 Minutes	Corner Gas	Name Is Earl	The Simpsons	South Park	Lucky Louie
	153	153	153	COURT	Situation Critical		Trace Evidence-Dr. Henry Lee		Criminal Mind	Criminals	Declassified		Evidence
	38	38	38	DISC	Heavy Metal Task Force (N)		Daily Planet (N)		I Could Do	I Could Do	Deadliest Catch		Mayday
	34	34	34	HGTV	Extreme Makeover: Home		House Hunters	For Rent	Agent-Agent	Property Show	Property Virgin	Unsellables	House Hunters
	46	46	46	HIST	Dive Detectives (HDTV)		Pawn Stars	Pawn Stars	Nostradamus Effect		Ice Road Truckers (N)		Ice Pilots NWT
	17	17	17	MM	Buffy the Vampire Slayer		When I Was 17	When I Was 17	disBAND	Video on Trial	VideoFlow		
	19	19	19	MMMM	mm2010.ca		The Daily Fix (N)		Ranked!		mm2010.ca		Family Jewels
	201	201	201	M1	(6:15) The Girl in the Park		(6:15) Perfect Plan (2010, Suspense)		Emily Rose.		Drag Me to Hell *** (2009, Horror)		
	48	23	23	OLN	Mantracker		Ghost Hunters Academy		Destination Truth		Operate-Repo	Operate-Repo	Ghost Hunters
cable variety	51	51	51	PEACH	The Office	The Office	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at Atlanta Braves. (HDTV) From Turner Field in Atlanta. (Live)						Seinfeld
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:45) Pitch (1997)		(6:10) Beautiful Dreamers (1990, Historical Drama)				Village of the Damned (1995, Horror)		
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI monde	RDI économie	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI économie
	39	39	39	SHOW	Trailer Park	Trailer Park	Relic Hunter		My Neighbor's Keeper (2007, Drama)		Laura Harring.		Secret Diary
	40	40	40	SLICE	Til Debt-Part	Wedding SOS	Rich Bride Poor Bride		In Laws	In-Laws	End/Leash	End of Leash	End of Leash
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1 (DVS)		Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Chuck (HDTV) (N)		Supernatural
	14	14	14	SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Investigat'n.		CSI: Crime Scene Investigat'n		UFC Unleashed		UFC Unleashed		Ultimate Fight
	57	98	98	STAR	etalk	TMZ (N)	Look-A-Like	TMZ	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		The View (HDTV) (N)		Dr. Oz Show
	21	21	21	TLC	Say Yes, Dress	Say Yes, Dress	Lottery Changed My Life II		Lottery Changed My Life		Lottery Changed My Life		Fortune
	56	34	34	TROP	Project Runway Canada		Dog Whisperer		Hoarders		Hoarders		Parking Wars
	20	20	20	TV5	Que-champion	Journal de Fr2	Femmes-luttent-crim		Mauvaise Foi *** (2006, Comédie)		24 idées/		J's suais, j'y
	28	28	28	W	Emily of New Moon		Murder, She Wrote		No Place Like	Open All Hours	Kingdom		Unscripted (N)
	60	97	97	VIVA	Mediums	Encounters	Cold Case "Fly Away"		Missing		Medium		Cold Case
	22	22	22	W	House-Sell	House-Sell	Supernanny		Grocery Bag	Grocery Bag	Cupcake Girls	Cupcake Girls	Wicked Minds
	251	251	251	WGN	WGN Evening News (N)		Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model (N)		One Tree Hill (HDTV)		WGN News

critics'corner

Johnny Mnemonic

There's a lesson to be learned from this 1995 sci-fi tale: Never send a boy to do a computer's job — i.e., transporting a big bunch of data embedded in his brain. Why? Well, computer meltdowns aren't fatal, but if this guy doesn't do a brain dump on time, he's dead. That's if the assorted gangsters and guerrillas who want what's in his head don't get him first. Actually, there's a second lesson: Not every sci-fi movie starring Keanu Reeves is worth your time. 1 PM on PIX



Village of the Damned

Some B movies are best left in column B and not remade by A-list directors. John Carpenter's intentions may have been good in trying to update Wolf Rilla's 1960 tale of creepy children born at the same time, who all look alike and have mysterious powers. And he got some decent actors, including Christopher Reeve, to go along for the ride. But sorry, John, there's nothing like the original. File this next to "Invasion of the Body Snatchers" in the "movies that were good enough the first time around" drawer. 2:40 PM on PIX

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- B.o.B ft Hayley Williams & Eminem - Airplanes
- Drake - Over

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Bristol Palin recently told People magazine that being a single mother was financially difficult for her. Well, this should help a little. Palin is set to join the speaker circuit and stands to make between \$15,000 and \$30,000 U.S. per speech, RadarOnline reports. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

Bieber gets a bitty baby bird on his hip

AND THREE MILLION 13 YEAR OLD GIRLS TAKE UP BIRD WATCHING Justin Bieber has got a tattoo, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 16-year-old singer reportedly had a small bird inked onto his hip shortly after his 16th birthday in March, at the Son of a Gun tattoo parlour in Toronto.

According to gossip website bestweekever.tv, having the design marked a family tradition.

Justin was accompanied

to the tattoo parlour by his father Jeremy, who "showed his approval by giving a thumbs-up when they posed for a photo with staff."

The site also published pictures of the Baby hit-maker on the tattooist's table, though a clear image of the completed design could not be seen.

However, photographs of him topless on a beach in Sydney, Australia, show the artwork visible on his

pelvis.

Fans have already taken to Twitter to express their views on the teenager's inking.

StopJBfanWar wrote: "Justin Bieber has a tattoo? That's hot."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Likes them just the way they are

STICKING TO HER AU NATUREL ROOTS. AT LEAST THOSE ARE NATURAL Despite rumours that she recently had breast augmentation surgery, Kate Hudson insists she's comfortable with what she was born with.

"I'm pretty comfortable with my body," Hudson tells the Daily Telegraph. "I'm imperfect. The imperfections are there."

People are going to see them, but I take the view you only live once."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Follow these celebrities on Twitter...

CelebTweets

COURTNEY LOVE is going into television, **MARIAH CAREY** is putting out fires, and **MATTHEW PERRY** is surrounded by tough critics.

@CourtneyLoveUK So ive caved im producing a 'reality show' BUT itll be amazing and i wont be on it much @MariahCarey In Egypt getting ready to go on stage and suddenly there was a surge of power and an electrical fire started under my feet! Naturally, my emergency instincts kicked in and I put out the flames w/a towel. Lol(yet true) @langfordperry The tooth fairy is playing on my airplane. 4 people have already walked out.

They are of course now dead. Still, not a bad move.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



All dogs go to heaven

OR WHEREVER SCIENTOLOGISTS GO WHEN THEY DIE John Travolta's pet dogs have been killed in an airport accident, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actor was having his plane serviced at Bangor International Airport, in Maine, and asked an airport employee to take the animals for a walk last Thursday, only for tragedy

to strike.

A statement from the city said: "At approximately 1 a.m. on Thursday, May 13, 2010, an airplane carrying members of the John Travolta

family landed at the dogs.

"Unfortunately, the dogs were struck and killed. The airport is investigating the accident."

"Out of respect for the family's privacy the city will make no further comment."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

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Children's Miracle Network

Reseau Enfants-Santé

family landed at the dogs.

"Unfortunately, the dogs were struck and killed. The airport is investigating the accident."

"Out of respect for the family's privacy the city will make no further comment."

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Children's Miracle Network

Reseau Enfants-Santé

family landed at the dogs.

Risky business is replaced by baby

PERSPECTIVE IS NICE BUT SO IS THE VIEW OF EARTH FROM SPACE Salma Hayek was all set to travel to outer space, but then motherhood got in the way.

"I reserved my place with the Virgin Galactic expedition. And then I got pregnant. And now I'm a mother. So, I'm not going to go,"

Hayek tells InStyle magazine.

She admits that her two-year-old daughter has influenced her to curb a lot of risky behaviour. "I love scuba diving and used to dive where the sharks were, and now? No more sharks," she says.

"Everything becomes about the baby. You are in second position, or third."

METRO WORLD NEWS



No more secret boyfriends

SHARING ALL THE DIRTY DETAILS WITH US IS MUCH EASIER Disney star Demi Lovato is relieved to let world know she's dating Joe Jonas.

"Every time that I've started to date someone, I've had private relationships, and there's just so much stress trying to hide it and keep it quiet, that if you just come out and say, 'OK, we're together,' you don't have to worry about keeping it secret," 17-

year-old Lovato tells Us Weekly.

"It was not only scary coming out to the public eye, but also the people who we work with, the people who are going to be on tour with us all summer, who are obviously nervous — because you never know what can happen."

METRO WORLD NEWS



Alex, pack your bags!

THIS IS ONE BUS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS While Alex Rodriguez has re-

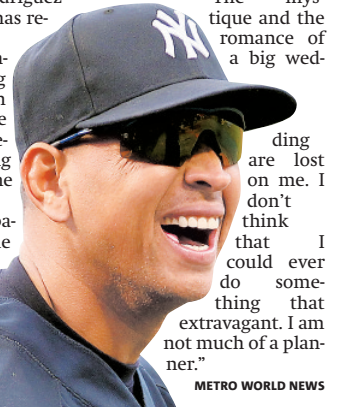
leaves for the chapel and ask if anyone is available to come. That's probably how my wedding is going to end up," Cameron Diaz tells Parade magazine.

"The mystique and the romance of a big wed-

CTV

said he's not planning on getting married again anytime soon, the woman he's believed to be dating is ready to go at the drop of a hat.

"I would probably make the phone call 20 minutes before the bus



METRO WORLD NEWS

Down on both knees

FEELING THE COLD STEEL OF HER SWORD Simon Cowell will soon be answering to "Sir," as the American Idol judge is reportedly set to be knighted by the Queen of England next month, according to the Mirror.

"Simon deserves the honour because he does so much work behind the scenes for charity and publicly supports good causes," a source says.

"Simon has always joked he'd be last in line for a knighthood, but deep down, it's his dream."

Cowell was reportedly recommended by former Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

"Gordon Brown was very keen for Simon to get proper recognition for his work," a source close to Brown says.

METRO WORLD NEWS



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